PHOTOGRAPH
THE DIGITAL GREATEST HITS
RINGO

RINGO – THE VERY BEST OF RINGO STARR

"Given the Beatles pedigree, of course, one would expect great things from the likes of Ringo Starr. And where most performers would be grateful to have scored such classic hits as "Photograph" and "It Don't Come Easy," Ringo's contributions to culture go beyond mere hits and drumming. Having worked with him on his 1970 solo album "Sentimental Journey," I can tell you firsthand that his keen instinct in choosing material, ability to surround himself with individuals such as George Martin and an entourage of impeccable producers, musicians and writers plus his terrific sense of humor in and out of the recording studio has earned Ringo Starr iconic status and much love. This collection of musical photographs reminisces some of my friend's more memorable recordings; but these snapshots also reveal the growth of a true artist who continues to define himself beyond the Fab Four."

Quincy Jones
June 2007

SONG-BY-SONG COMMENTARIES BY RINGO STARR

PHOTOGRAPH

(Richard Starkey – George Harrison)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Ringo* (1973)
US Pop #1 / charted 10-6-73
Adult Contemporary #3 / charted 10-13-73
UK Pop #8 / charted 10-27-73
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

I was in Spain at the time that I wrote it, and I bought this Spanish guitar. George was trying to teach me other chords *besides* E. So George taught me C, which was *so* damn hard. That's how the song started. I love the sentiment of "Photograph." When we did *The Concert For George*, I told the audience that "Photograph" now has a different meaning just because of the fact that George has left. But "Photograph" is a song that fits into the universe. I *still* do it a hundred years later, and I still enjoy singing it.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
Vini Poncia: acoustic guitars
Jimmy Calvert: acoustic guitars
George Harrison: 12-string acoustic guitar and harmony vocal
Nicky Hopkins: piano
Klaus Voormann: bass
Jim Keltner: drums
Lon Van Eaton: percussion
Derrek Van Eaton: percussion
Bobby Keyes: tenor sax solo
Jack Nitzche: orchestra and chorus arrangement

IT DON'T COME EASY

(Richard Starkey)
Produced by George Harrison
single only (1971)
US Pop #4 / charted 5-1-71
Adult Contemporary #24 / charted 6-5-71
UK Pop #4 / charted 4-17-71
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

I thought I was *so* hip with that line "Got to pay your dues if you want to sing the blues." I do not spend weeks and months writing a song. I just try to get whatever is coming out at the moment. I don't get tired of that song. I don't get tired of *any* of them really. I remember shouting at different artists when I wasn't touring, like, "Are you *still* doing 'Layla'?" Now I laugh every night I'm onstage singing, "With A Little Help From My Friends." Here we go again, but there are important songs in your career that make you what you are.

Musicians*
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
George Harrison: guitars
Stephen Stills: guitars
Gary Wright: piano
Klaus Voormann: bass
Ron Cattermole: saxophones and trumpets
Pete Ham: background vocals
Tom Evans: background vocals
*These musician credits are based on research and best recollections by the participants

YOU'RE SIXTEEN (YOU'RE BEAUTIFUL AND YOU'RE MINE)

(Bob Sherman – Richard Sherman)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Ringo* (1973)
US Pop #1 / charted 12-15-73
Adult Contemporary #2 / charted 12-22-73
UK Pop #4 / charted 2-23-74
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Richard Perry presented the idea of covering this fifties song, and it just worked really well. If you're open, you try things. But I *can't* do that song onstage anymore. I can't stand there anymore singing those lyrics about a girl being sixteen. I did it in Texas and part of the act is I would go up and point at a woman and sing "You're Sixteen" and then signal like, "Well, maybe not." This woman stood up like she wanted to *stab* me. I couldn't look that direction the whole night. The video is retro, and a little psychedelic. Then again *we* were a little psychedelic in those days.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
Vini Poncia: guitars
Jimmy Calvert: guitars
Nicky Hopkins: piano
Klaus Voormann: bass
Jim Keltner: drums
Paul McCartney: mouth sax solo
Harry Nilsson: background vocal

BACK OFF BOOGALOO

(Richard Starkey)
Produced by George Harrison
single only (1972)
US Pop #9 / charted 4-1-72
UK Pop #2 / charted 1-1-72
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Marc Bolan was a friend. He came over for dinner one night and he used to talk like that—he'd say things like "Back Off Boogaloo." I went to bed and that song just came into my head in the twilight hour. I ran downstairs and as usual, every damn tape is broken—in those days it was cassettes and reel-to-reels. The crazy bit is the song was turning into "Mack The Knife" in my head, and I was trying to hold it together. George wanted me to play a drum pattern I just couldn't play. In the end, the drum pattern I did play on the snares makes the track. It comes from God. This was one of those. I've tried to play it with the All-Starrs and only two of the eight bands could do it. And those are *great bands*. On the DVD, that's me and "Frankenstein" running around Tittenhurst Park. And no that's *not* Peter Boyle from Young Frankenstein. It's a British actor trying to give me a flower.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
George Harrison: slide guitar
Gary Wright: keyboards
Klaus Voormann: bass and sax
Madeleine Bell: background vocals
Lesley Duncan: background vocals
Jean Gilbert: background vocals

I'M THE GREATEST

(John Lennon)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Ringo* (1973)
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Well, that was John who wrote that one, and I think *only* he could write it and only I could sing it because we both knew we were having fun. There's a really great shot of John behind me when we were recording it, screaming because I loved that energy. I *still* do "I'm The Greatest" today—"Way back home in Liverpool."

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
George Harrison: guitars
John Lennon: piano and harmony vocal
Billy Preston: organ
Klaus Voormann: bass

OH MY MY

(Vini Poncia – Richard Starkey)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Ringo* (1973)
US Pop #5 / charted 3-9-74
Adult Contemporary #24 / charted 3-16-74
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Another good thing that Richard Perry did was he brought in Vini Poncia as a co-writer and we got on very well. "Oh My My" was written by Vini Poncia and I. We would sit around the piano and write songs. The songs would always come from someone saying something. Vini was *so* great, and he was *very* deep New York. We once went to the Bahamas to do some vocals—as you do—and we had this house on the beach. I saw Vini coming from the hotel, and he was like, "What's all this *f***ing* sand?" I loved Vini.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
Jimmy Calvert: guitar
Billy Preston: piano and organ
Klaus Voormann: bass
Jim Keltner: drums
Tom Scott: sax solo and horn arrangement
Jim Horn: horn arrangement
Vini Poncia: harmony vocal
Martha Reeves, Merry Clayton and Friends: Background Vocals

ONLY YOU (AND YOU ALONE)

(Buck Ram – Ande Rand)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Goodnight Vienna* (1974)
US Pop #6 / charted 11-16-74
Adult Contemporary #1 / charted 11-23-74
UK Pop #28 / charted 11-30-74
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

This version of the Platters song is good and my voice is good because it was too high for me so I went into this strange falsetto. And it was like "wow, it works!" And the video for "Only You" is great. It's just Harry Nilsson and me on top of the Capitol building. We just went on the roof and filmed it. Harry was in his bathrobe and no one thought anything about it

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
John Lennon: acoustic guitar
Jesse Ed Davis: electric guitar
Steve Cropper: electric guitar
Billy Preston: electric piano
Jim Keltner: drums
Harry Nilsson: background vocals

BEAUCOUPS OF BLUES

(Buzz Rabin)
Produced by Pete Drake
from the album *Beaucoups Of Blues* (1970)
US Pop #87 / charted 11-7-70
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

George was doing his album in England, and he flew Pete Drake in to play pedal steel. I sent my car to pick Pete up and I had a lot of cassettes in the back in those days—a lot of them were country. Pete said, "You've got to come to Nashville and make a country album." I said, "Six months in Nashville, I don't know." Because the Beatles we were taking a long time to make records in the end, and this was just after that. Pete said, "We made *Nashville Skyline* in two days." I said, "Okay." In the morning, we'd pick five tracks, and in the afternoon we *recorded* five tracks. The next day, we did the same thing.

Musicians include*
Ringo Starr: vocals
Charlie McCoy: harmonica
The Jordanaires: background vocals
*These musician credits are based on research and best recollections by the participants.

EARLY 1970

(Richard Starkey)
Produced by Ringo Starr
working title was "When I Come To Town (4 Nights In Moscow)"
b-side of the single "It Don't Come Easy"
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

That's an interesting one. For the first time, it was me commenting on the breakup and Paul's attitude towards us at the time—when he was suing the three of us. Just a fact. So the John verse goes, "When he comes to town, I know he's going to play with me." And the George verse goes, "And when he comes to town, I know he's going to play with me." And the Paul verse goes, "And when he comes to town, I wonder if he'll play with me." So it was good—I was getting a lot of stuff out then.

Musicians*
Ringo Starr: vocals, drums, acoustic guitar and piano
George Harrison: acoustic guitar, piano and electric slide guitar
Klaus Voormann: bass, acoustic guitar and dobro
*These musician credits are based on research and best recollections by the participants.

SNOOKEROO

(Elton John – Bernie Taupin)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Goodnight Vienna* (1974)
also b-side of the single "No No Song"
US Pop #3 / charted 2-8-75
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

I had gotten to know Elton John several years before this. Robert Stigwood had a party and we said hello. We asked all sorts of people who were writing songs then for material. Bernie wrote these strange lyrics and Elton turned them into a song. "Snookeroo" seemed to read like a Ringo song, the Ringo attitude, so we did it. It was all like, "It feels good—let's go." {Change may have already been made if you see no difference}

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
Robbie Robertson: guitar
Elton John: piano
James Newton Howard: synthesizer
Klaus Voormann: bass
Jim Keltner: drums
Trevor Lawrence: horns
Steve Madaio: horns
Bobby Keys: horns
Chuck Finley: horns
Clydie King: background vocals
Linda Lawrence: background vocals
Joe Greene: background vocals

NO-NO SONG

(Hoyt Axton – David Jackson)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Goodnight Vienna* (1974)
US Pop #3 / charted 2-8-75
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Everybody believes the song is anti—which the lyrics *are*—but they have to remember that the people who were actually working that day were brain damaged. Hoyt Axton who co-wrote the song was so great. All sorts of people were hanging out in the studio at that point. We all thought this was funny—Ringo doing this anti-dope song. As far as I know, I was the first to record "No-No Song" but I can be proved wrong on *many* things about the seventies.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals, drums and percussion
Jesse Ed Davis: electric guitar
Nicky Hopkins: electric piano
Klaus Voorman: bass
Ringo Starr: drums and percussion
Trevor Lawrence: horns
Bobby Keys: horns
Harry Nilsson: background vocals

(IT'S ALL DOWN TO) GOODNIGHT VIENNA

(John Lennon)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Goodnight Vienna* (1974)
US Pop #31 / charted 6-14-75
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

This was just something John had written and presented because he thought it would be good for me. We had such fun with it we decided to title the album *Goodnight Vienna* because it made *no* sense. We had a lot of fun together. And in all honesty, in the earlier and middle seventies, it was good to have another Beatle in the room because it took the pressure off. People were looking like, "There's a Beatle!" It was like you weren't human. At least if you could hang out with each other, it wasn't like, "Look—there's one of *them*!" In any case, it was *always* my pleasure to hang out with John.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
Lon Van Eaton: guitars
Jesse Ed Davis: guitars
John Lennon: piano and inspiration
Billy Preston: clavinet
Klaus Voormann: bass
Jim Keltner: drums
Carl "Weddings & Bar Mitzvah's" Fortuna: accordion
Trevor Lawrence: horns
Steve Madaio: horns
Bobby Keys: horns
Lon Van Eaton: horns
Clydie King: background vocals
The Blackberries: background vocals
The Masst Alberts: background vocals

OO-WEE

(Richard Starkey – Vini Poncia)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Goodnight Vienna* (1974)
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: drums
Dr. John: piano
Dennis Coffey: guitar
Klaus Voormann: bass
Jim Keltner: drums
Trevor Lawrence: horns
Steve Madaio: horns
Bobby Keys: horns
Lou McCreery: horns
Vini Poncia: harmony vocal

HAVE YOU SEEN MY BABY?

(R. Newman)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Ringo* (1973)
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Musicians
Drums: Ringo Starr, Jim Keltner
Guitar: Marc Bolan
Piano: James Booker
Bass: Klaus Voormann
Percussion: Milt Holland
Horns arranged and played by: Tom Scott

SIX O'CLOCK (EXTENDED VERSION)

(Paul McCartney – Linda McCartney)
Produced by Richard Perry
from the album *Ringo* (1973)
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
Paul McCartney: piano, synthesizer, strings and flute arrangement, background vocals
Vini Poncia: acoustic guitar, percussion
Klaus Voormann: bass
Linda McCartney: background vocal

WEIGHT OF THE WORLD

(Brian O'Doherty – Fred Velez)
Produced by Jeff Lynne & Don Was
from the album *Time Takes Time* (1993)
Rock #43 / charted 6-13-92
UK Pop 74 / charted 6-6-92
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

To me, "Weight Of The World" signifies that I was coming out of the fog. This was the first record I made after *several* years. We started with Don Was and he introduced me to Jellyfish and several other new-ish artists who were great and some of them kind of hippish. I was starting to get on my feet again and doing what I do best. I responded to the actual line in this song, about "The Weight Of The World," because sometimes it gets heavy.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals, drums and percussion
Mark Goldenberg: guitar
James "Hutch" Hutchinson: bass
Benmont Tench: keyboards
Andy Sturmer: background vocals
Roger Manning: background vocals

NEVER WITHOUT YOU

(Richard Starkey – Mark Hudson – Gary Nicholson)
Produced by Mark Hudson and Ringo Starr
from the album *Ringo Rama* (2003)
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

It's all about George. This song is still very poignant for me, and I tried *not* to do it on the last tour, but I had to do it because it's a beautiful song and expresses what I felt for the man. The song actually started with one of my co-writers, Gary Nicholson. Then I thought of putting Harry Nilsson, John Lennon and George into the song—all of my friends who had left. But in the end that got so mad, and I thought let's just do it about George. He had just gone and I wanted to express my love for him. Also the guitar solo is pretty good—it's by that guy who does "Layla"—what's his name? He lives right down the road and who else could I have? Peace and love, Eric.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals, drums and percussion
Steve Dudas: electric guitar
Eric Clapton: guitar solo
Gary Burr: acoustic guitar
Gary Nicholson: 12-string acoustic guitar
Ringo Starr: keyboards
Mark Hudson: bass and background vocals
Jim Cox: B3 organ
Ringo Starr: drums and percussion
Gary Burr: background vocals

ACT NATURALLY – duet with Buck Owens

(Johnny Russell – Voni Morrison)
Produced by Jim Shaw & Jerry Crutchfield
Recorded at Abbey Road Studios
from the Buck Owens album *Act Naturally* (1989)
Country #27 / charted 7-15-89
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

I've loved Buck Owens since the sixties. And I had recorded that song with the Beatles because it was like, "Find something you want to do." I also did Carl Perkins—I *loved* Carl Perkins too. I was listening to Buck Owens and thought "Act Naturally" was a great song. "They're going to put me in the movies"—that's what I wanted to do back then. Buck did the song. I did the song. And then we did the song. So that song had legs. Buck was great and a groundbreaker in his own way.

Musicians
Buck Owens: vocals
Ringo Starr: vocals
Terry Christoffersen: guitar
Bill Lloyd: guitar
Reggie Young: guitar
Jim Shaw: piano
Doyle Curtsinger: bass
Jim McCarty: drums

WRACK MY BRAIN

(George Harrison)
Produced by George Harrison
from the album *Stop And Smell The Roses* (1981)
US Pop #38 / charted 11-7-81
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

George wrote that one. I *was* watching a lot of TV there, as he writes in one of the lyrics in the song. Also I was probably going insane too. George thought this song would be good for me. It's a song I knew he'd never do. So it gave George more freedom and it was a bit looser than something that he would do for himself.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals and drums
George Harrison: lead guitar, acoustic guitar and background vocals
Al Kooper: piano and electric guitar
Ray Cooper: piano, percussion, vocoder and background vocals
Herbie Flowers: bass and tuba

FADING IN AND FADING OUT

(Richard Starkey – Mark Hudson – Gary Burr)
Produced by Mark Hudson & Ringo Starr
from the album *Choose Love* (2005)
(p) 1973 EMI Records Ltd.

What do I remember of that one? Well, I remember fading in, fading out. You're *too* easy. This is another one of those good group efforts—just the way I like it.

Musicians
Ringo Starr: vocals, drums and percussion
Robert Randolph: lead guitar
Mark Hudson: electric guitar, acoustic guitar, bass and background vocals
Gary Burr: electric guitar, acoustic guitar and background vocals
Mark Mirando: electric guitar
Dan Higgins: horns
Gary Grant: horns
Jim Cox: horn arrangement

"back off boogaloo"
Ringo Starr
APPLE 1849

RINGO STARR
Beaucoups of Blues

APPLE 3369

Ringo Starr
IT DON'T
COME EASY
Apple Records 1831

ATLANTIC
ATLANTIC
45 R.P.M.
45-3361
Pub., Millmerran,
Bloomsbury Music
Publishing Co., BMI
Time: 3:24
VOCAL
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STEREO
A DOSE OF ROCK 'N' ROLL
(Carl Grassman)
RINGO STARR
Produced by Arif Mardin
Horns Arranged by Arif Mardin
Recording & Mixing: Lew Hahn
From Atlantic LP 18193
℗ 1976 Atlantic
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IT'S ALL DOWN TO
GOODNIGHT
VIENNA
b/w OO-WEE
RINGO
STARR
1882
apple records
Photo: Tom Bert Peggy O Neill

The Atlantic® Group

RINGO STARR

KING OF BROKEN HEARTS

RINGO STARR
Never Without You

Apple
NO NO SONG
(Hoyt Axton)
From the LP
"GOODNIGHT VIENNA" (SW-3417)
STEREO
Engineer
Bill Schnee
Mfd. by
Apple Records,
Inc.
Lady Jane
Music/BMI
Intro Time—:09
Total Time—2:30
1880
(5-45-48942)
℗1974 EMI
Records Limited
RINGO STARR
Produced by
RICHARD PERRY

Apple

Mfd. by
Apple Records, Inc.
℗ 1973
EMI Records Limited
From the LP
"RINGO"
(SWAL-3413)
Engineer:
Bill Schnee
STEREO
Braintree Mus
BMI
Time—3:39
1872
(945-X48153A)
OH MY MY
(V. Poncia-R. Starkey)
RINGO STARR
Produced by
RICHARD PERRY

RINGO STARR
ONLY YOU
b/w CALL ME
1876
apple
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photograph
RINGO STARR
apple records
1865

7UP
PARKING
AFTER 6 P.M.

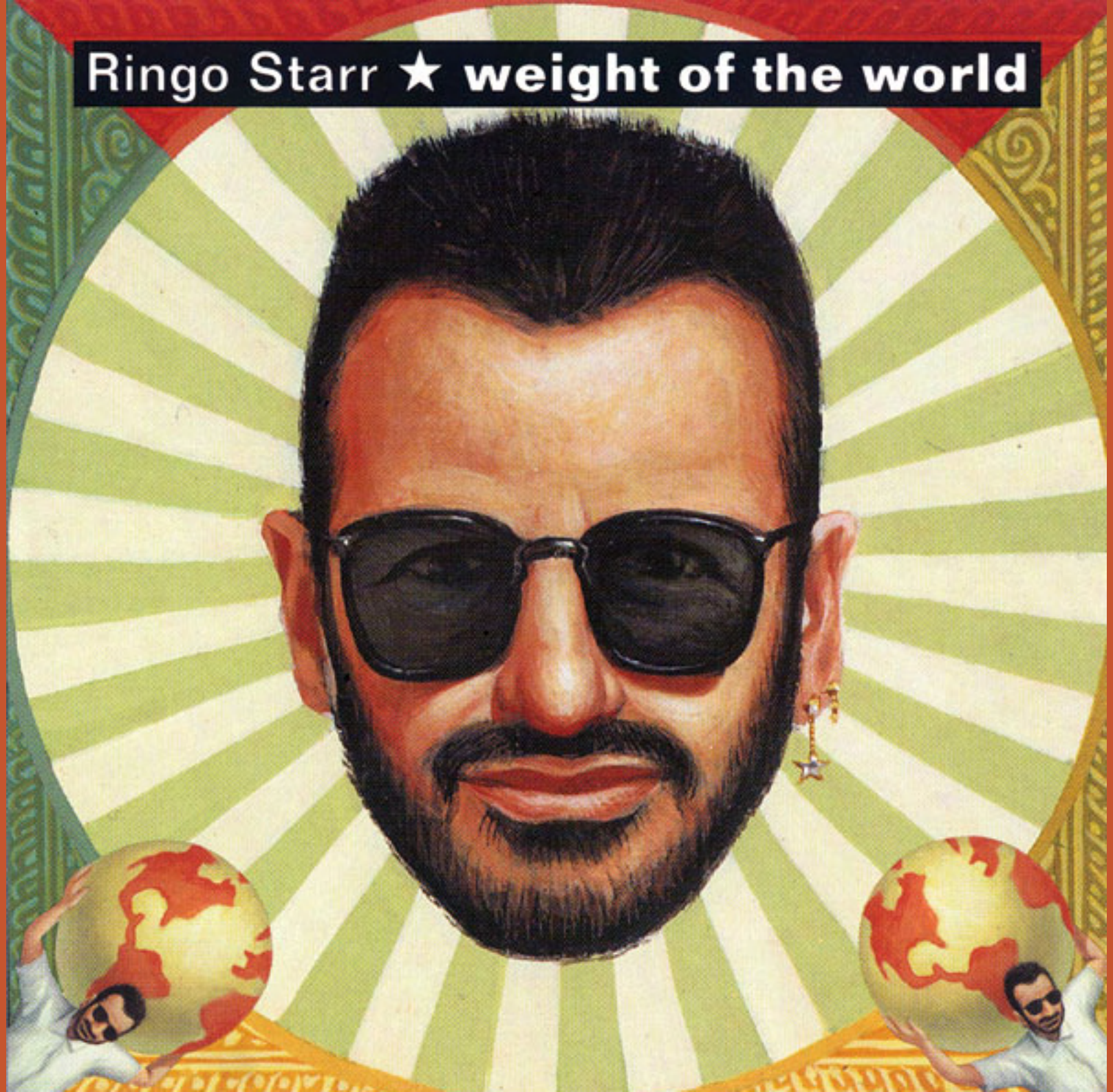
NEW YORK
CITY

Apple

SNOOKEROO
(Elton John—Bernie Taupin)
From the LP
"GOODNIGHT VIENNA" (SW-3417)
STEREO
Engineer
Bill Schnee
Mfd. by
Apple Records,
Inc.
Leeds Music
Corporation
ASCAP
Intro Time—:08
Total Time—3:27
1880
(5C 45 48940)
℗1974 EMI
Records Limited
RINGO STARR
Produced by
RICHARD PERRY

RINGO STARR WRACK MY BRAIN

From the Boardwalk Records album
RINGO STARR—Stop And Smell The Roses NBI-33246

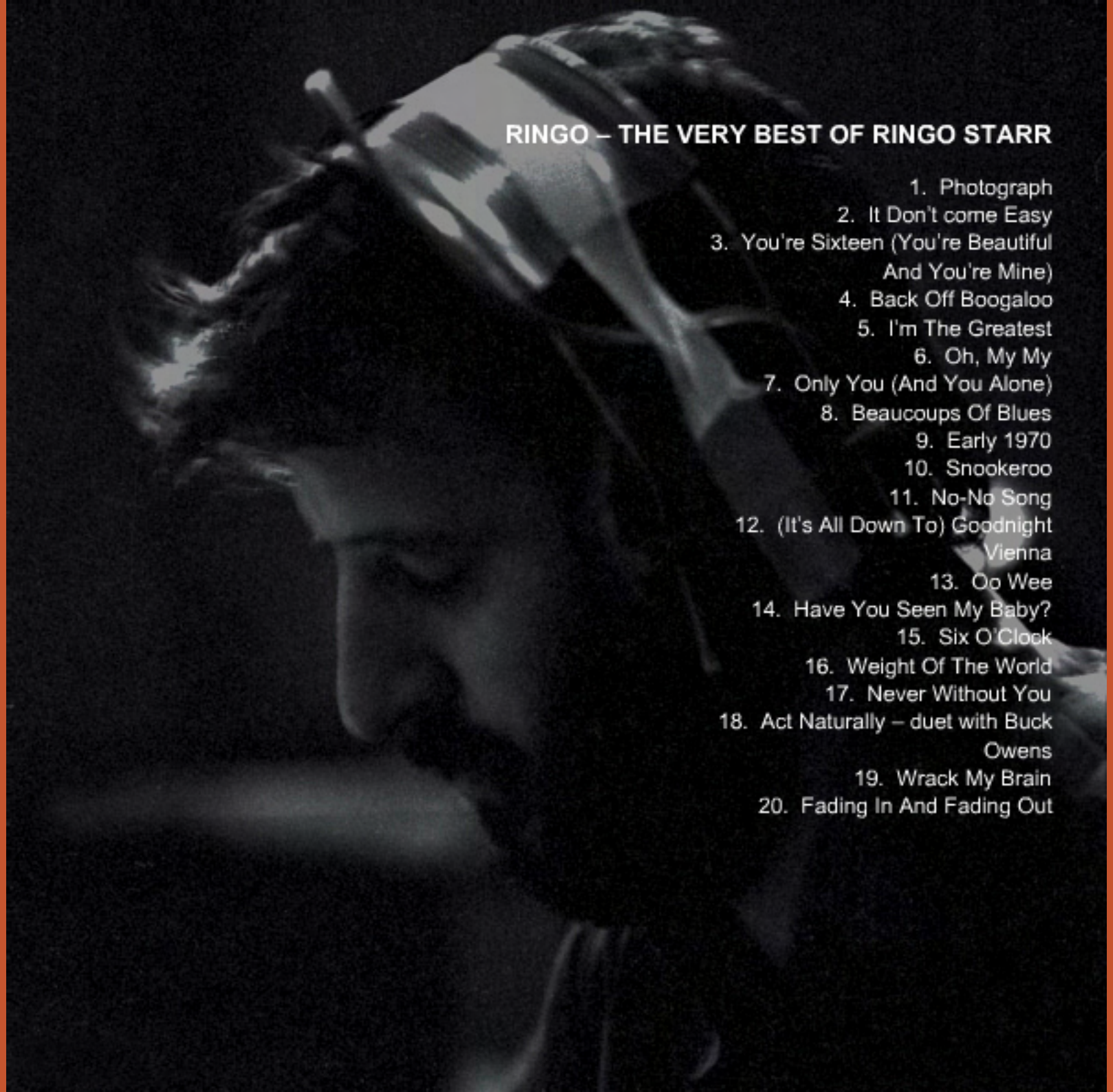

Ringo Starr ★ weight of the world

YOU'RE SIXTEEN

1870

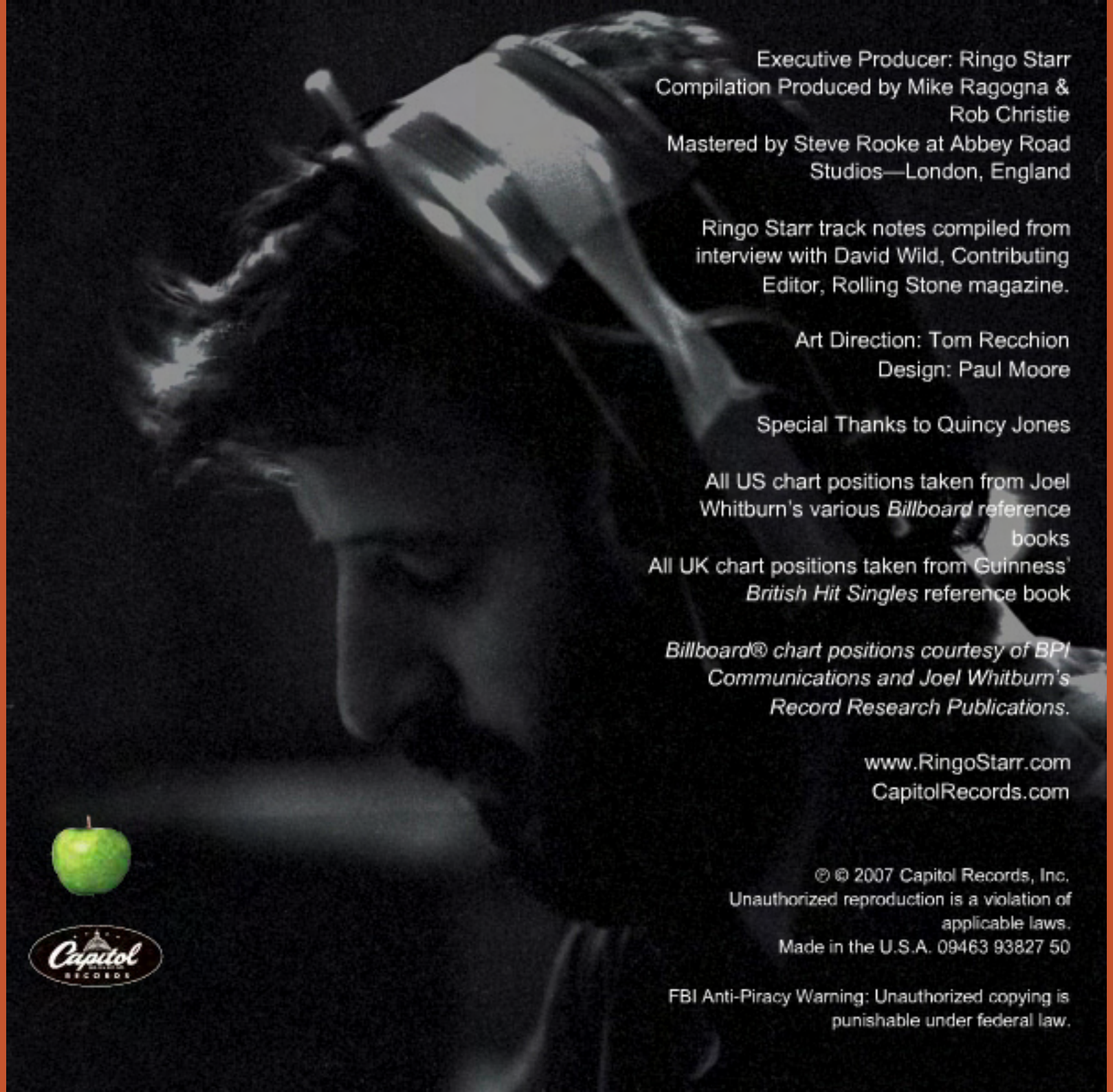
apple

APITOL RECORDS
CAPI



RINGO – THE VERY BEST OF RINGO STARR

1. Photograph
2. It Don't come Easy
3. You're Sixteen (You're Beautiful And You're Mine)
4. Back Off Boogaloo
5. I'm The Greatest
6. Oh, My My
7. Only You (And You Alone)
8. Beaucoups Of Blues
9. Early 1970
10. Snookeroo
11. No-No Song
12. (It's All Down To) Goodnight Vienna
13. Oo Wee
14. Have You Seen My Baby?
15. Six O'Clock
16. Weight Of The World
17. Never Without You
18. Act Naturally – duet with Buck Owens
19. Wrack My Brain
20. Fading In And Fading Out



Executive Producer: Ringo Starr
Compilation Produced by Mike Ragogna & Rob Christie
Mastered by Steve Rooke at Abbey Road Studios—London, England

Ringo Starr track notes compiled from interview with David Wild, Contributing Editor, Rolling Stone magazine.

Art Direction: Tom Recchion
Design: Paul Moore

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All US chart positions taken from Joel Whitburn's various *Billboard* reference books
All UK chart positions taken from Guinness' *British Hit Singles* reference book

Billboard® chart positions courtesy of BPI Communications and Joel Whitburn's Record Research Publications.

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